

TWO COUNTRIES
APPROVE REPLY

France and Great Britain
Send It to Russia
and Italy

NO COMMENT YET
FROM THE LATTER

Statement Is Guarded Just
Like Reply to Ger-
many's Note

London, Jan. 2.—The final draft of the reply of the entente to President Wilson's peace note, which already has been approved by France and Great Britain, has been forwarded to Italy and Russia, and as no change has been suggested thus far from those quarters it is not improbable that the note will be delivered to American Ambassador Sharp at Paris within a short time, possibly tomorrow.

In its present form the reply is about the same length as the note to the central powers and has the same characteristics of general and guarded language.

Paris, Jan. 2.—The allies' reply to President Wilson's note will not, it is understood, be published until the end of the week. The text has been completed and is now being considered by the different cabinets.

The reply will follow the same course as the answer to the central powers. Great Britain and France have already agreed on the draft, which has been submitted to the other members of the entente and on their approval will be handed to American Ambassador William G. Sharp in Paris. The original draft, like the reply to the central powers, will be written by the French authorities after consultation with the allies of France.

TEUTONS KEEP UP
VICTORIOUS DRIVE
ON EASTERN FRONT

Are Sweeping Back Both the Russians
and Rumanians Along the Valleys
Leading to the Interior
of Moldavia.

Berlin, by wireless, Jan. 2.—Continuing their vigorous offensive along the Rumanian front, the Teutonic troops yesterday pushed back the Russians and Rumanians along the valleys leading to the interior of Moldavia, the war office announced. A successful bayonet attack was made on both sides of the Otus valley.

Teutonic forces in northern Wallachia have compelled the Russians to make a further retreat and are approaching the bridgehead positions near Fokshani. More than 1,300 prisoners were taken yesterday in this area.

In Dolnolj German and Bulgarian troops pressed back the Russians on Matchia.

"BULGARIANS' TASK DONE."

Declared Bulgaria's Premier, Responding
to Criticism.

Sofia, Bulgaria, Jan. 2, via wireless.—Premier Radaslavoff, speaking in the Bulgarian Parliament in reply to opposition speakers who had criticized the government's conduct of war, said:

"I assure you the essential part of Bulgaria's task in this war is done. Those who are complaining that we are seeking too much I reply that we are not fanatics, but that we know the aspirations of the Bulgarian people and from the royal manifesto on the occasion of the declaration of war you know what these aspirations are."

Replying to speakers who had criticized the passage of the Danube river by Bulgarian troops Premier Radaslavoff said the crossing was expressly ordered by the Bulgarian high command on the ground that the Rumanian army ought to be followed and annihilated by the Bulgarians. In reply to criticism of the part of Germans and Austrians were playing in the Bulgarian army the prime minister said:

"All German and Austrian officers in Bulgaria are subservient to the Bulgarian command. I make this declaration with the full authority of the government."

Respecting the peace offer of Bulgaria in conjunction with the proposals of the central powers, M. Radaslavoff said: "The offer is no sign of weakness. We are ready to conclude peace only because we wish to see the end of the war and are willing to make concessions in the name of humanity and for the safety of all nations."

BRITISH ATTACK REPULSED.

Berlin Also Tells of Raiding Operations
in Three Sectors.

Berlin, by wireless, Jan. 2.—The repulse of a British heavy gun attack in the Ypres salient, where there also has been an artillery duel of considerable violence, and raiding operations in the Champagne, Argonne and Verdun regions were reported in today's army headquarters' statement regarding activities on the Franco-Belgian front.

GREEK SHIP TORPEDOED.

Nine of Her Crew Known to Have Been
Saved.

Pres., Jan. 2.—The Greek steamer Sappho has been torpedoed. None of her crew were saved, and the fate of the rest is not known.

FOOD IN STOMACH
IMPORTANT FACT

Expert Testimony That Organ Contained
Meat and Vegetables Is Regarded as
Valuable in the Small Case.

Ossipee, N. H., Jan. 2.—Expert testimony was given by Mrs. Florence A. Small had eaten meat and vegetable an hour before her death was supplemented today by a statement of witnesses that Frederick L. Small who is charged with her murder, and his wife had their heartiest meal at noon. This supplemental testimony was given by Mrs. Lilla M. Perrin and Edwin C. Conner and was regarded by the prosecution as significant because of its bearing on the time of the woman's death.

Small left the house at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the day of the murder and has stated since that they had little luncheon of canned shrimp just before he left. Counsel for the defense, it is understood, will contend that the finding of the other food in the stomach indicates that the woman was alive after her husband's departure and had an opportunity to eat another meal before she met her death.

WEST BEAT EAST.

University of Pennsylvania Lost to Uni-
versity of Oregon, 14 to 0.

Pasadena, Calif., Jan. 2.—The University of Oregon defeated the University of Pennsylvania here yesterday, 14 to 0. Oregon scored one touchdown in the third and another in the fourth.

In the third period, with Pennsylvania pressing the play in Oregon territory and within menacing distance of the northwestern goal, Oregon recovered a Pennsylvania fumble on the 30-yard line and by forward passes and brilliant running by backs, S. and H. Huntington, carried the ball to Pennsylvania's 10-yard line, where Tegtart went over for a touchdown and S. Huntington kicked the goal.

In the fourth period Oregon's attack began to work and Pennsylvania was helpless before it. Repeatedly Pennsylvania's line was shattered as the Oregonians plowed through center for steady consistent gains interspersed with an occasional forward pass. S. Huntington missed a goal from the field. Shortly afterwards Parsons ran for 45 yards to Pennsylvania's eight-yard line and was forced over for the second touchdown. S. Huntington kicked the goal.

HONOR FOR DR. GROUT.

Retiring Superintendent of Insane Asy-
lum Given Presents.

Waterbury, Jan. 2.—A party was held by the staff and employees of the state hospital for the insane last evening in honor of the retiring superintendent, Dr. Don D. GROUT, and his family. The affair was held in the chapel and there were about 100 employees of the institution present. James Maxwell, one of the supervisors, was in charge of the arrangements for the party.

While Earl Trombley, violinist, and John Miller, pianist, were playing, Dr. GROUT and his family entered the room, whereupon all present arose in their honor. Dr. W. L. Wasson, the incoming superintendent, then presented to Dr. GROUT a gold-headed cane on behalf of the hospital staff, and Mr. Maxwell presented him a 25-jeweled Hamilton gold watch, engraved on the outside of the case with the initials of Dr. GROUT and on the inside with a suitable inscription. Dr. GROUT fittingly responded and then flashlight pictures were taken of the entire company. Later there was dancing. Among those in attendance was N. D. Phelps of Barre, a trustee of the institution.

VERMONT BUSINESS TROUBLES.

Merchant at Lowell Owes Much in Unse-
cured Debts.

Rutland, Jan. 2.—Donald F. Naramore, merchant of Lowell, by his attorney, O. S. Annis of North Troy, filed with the clerk of the United States court, his petition and accompanying schedules in bankruptcy. The sum of \$5,940.03 in unsecured liabilities and \$80 of secured debts are shown; also \$74.92 unpaid taxes to the town of Lowell. He has due him on open accounts \$866.71, a stock of merchandise estimated at \$3,200, two automobiles valued at \$500, and cash on hand, \$128.24, besides household effects valued at \$325, and claimed as exempt. His store has been in the custody of an officer since December 18, when an attachment in favor of the Converse Rubber Shoe Co. was put on.

KILLED BY MANHOLE COVER.

Boston Newsboy the Victim After a Big
Explosion.

Boston, Jan. 2.—Explosions occurring almost simultaneously in 12 manholes in the South Boston district late yesterday caused the death of one boy and the injury of several persons, none seriously. Thomas A. Nugent, a newsboy, was instantly killed when a falling manhole cover struck him and nearly severed his head from his body. Thomas Murphy, a companion, was blown 30 feet by the force of the explosion, but escaped virtually unhurt.

VILLA LOOTED TOWN.

Salinas Hidalgo Between, Between La-
redo and Monterrey, Captured.

Laredo, Tex., Jan. 2.—Villa followers have captured and looted the town of Salinas Hidalgo between Laredo and Monterrey, according to advices reaching the border today.

SKIRMISHES NEAR LORRAINE.

Paris Official Announcement Tells of
Small Actions.

Paris, Jan. 2.—Skirmishing occurred last night at small posts in the Lorraine and Jura woods near the Lorraine border. Otherwise, today's official announcement says, the night passed quietly.

Call to National Banks.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 2.—The controller of the currency today issued a call for the condition of all national banks at the close of business on Dec. 27.

MASS OF WORK
FOR CONGRESS

Convened After Holiday Re-
cess, with Important
Legislation Ahead

RAILROAD MATTERS
OF PRIME IMPORTANCE

Resolution on Wilson's Peace
Note Also Command-
ing Attention

Washington, D. C., Jan. 2.—Congress reconvened today after the holiday vacation with a mass of work, notably railroad appropriation and revenue legislation, on hand for completion before final adjournment on March 4. The Senate commerce committee arranged hearings on the president's suggestions for measures relating to railroad control and prevention of hasty strikes and invited representatives of railroad managements, labor organizations and the public to participate.

Following President Wilson's conference yesterday with Chairman Stone of the foreign relations committee, administration senators today took steps to ascertain the sentiment of both Republicans and Democrats on the pending resolution, stating that the Senate believes the president's action in sending his recent note to the belligerent powers represented "the overwhelming public sentiment and earnest desire of the people of the United States."

PROPOSE INCREASED
POSTAGE RATES
OF SECOND CLASS

Annual Postoffice Appropriation Bill Sub-
mitted To-day Also Sets Aside
Total of \$329,553,120.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 2.—The annual postoffice appropriation bill reported to the House today carried provisions to increase the rates on newspapers, magazines and other second-class matter by the zone system, to establish penny postage on local letters and to impose severe penalties for sending liquor through the mails.

The bill would appropriate \$329,553,120, an increase of \$4,000,000. Magazine publishers have protested vigorously against a rate increase which would affect only publications carried more than 300 miles, and Postmaster General Burleson proposed to Chairman Moon of the House postoffice committee a provision to postpone the effectiveness of the increase for a year. The bill, as reported, makes the new rates applicable June 30, and Chairman Moon has not indicated what action will be recommended on Burleson's suggestion. The bill probably will be debated in the House within a few days.

The bill directs that hereafter catalogues and similar publications be classified as third-class matter with an increased postage. Another section provides that rural carriers' pay be based on the length of routes, the time required to serve them and the quantity of mail transported, with a maximum of \$2,000 and a minimum of \$480 a year. One thousand dollars' fine and two years' imprisonment, or both, is prescribed as a penalty for mailing liquor.

TWO KILLED IN WRECK

When Two Trolley Cars Collided Near
Jamestown, N. Y.

Jamestown, N. Y., Jan. 2.—Herman Swanson and Frank Wood of this city, both motormen in the employ of the Jamestown, Westfield and Northwestern railway, an electric line operated between this city and Westfield, were killed at 2:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon in a head-on collision near the Pennsylvania railroad junction between Mayville and Hartfield stations.

Twenty-four passengers were injured, of whom 12 were brought to a hospital in this city, some returned to their homes, and others were treated by Mayville physicians. Nearly all are residents of this city or vicinity, and several are severely hurt. Jamestown students on their way to Westfield to take a train to return to colleges and schools were injured. The southbound car left Mayville station without receiving orders. The northbound limited car had orders to pass at the Pennsylvania junction switch. The collision of the two heavy steel cars occurred just south of the junction while both were running at high speed. Neither motorman had time to jump, and Swanson was struck as he turned to enter the car, dying in a few minutes. The passengers were thrown into heaps, and both cars were badly smashed.

DRAGGED BY RUNAWAY.

Charles Cady of Middlebury Was Badly
Bruised.

Middlebury, Jan. 3.—Charles Cady was thrown from his sleigh and injured yesterday when his horse became frightened and started on a wild run. Mr. Cady was dragged a considerable distance. It is thought that he is not seriously hurt, but he is badly bruised and scratched. The horse ran with the sleigh overturned and was caught in the yard of Dr. W. J. White, badly cut by the broken harness and sleigh.

Is Candidate for Sergeant-at-Arms.

Barre has a candidate for the office of sergeant-at-arms in the person of Murray A. Love of Highland avenue, according to a statement made by his friends today. It is claimed for him that he possesses the necessary qualifications for the office and that he will discharge the duties in a capable manner if he is named. Mr. Love is a real estate operator and insurance dealer and has gained considerable experience as a traveling salesman.

GRANITE MUTUAL CO.
IS FORGING AHEAD

Premium Note Capital Is Expected to
Exceed Million-Dollar Mark by March
1 on Tenth Anniversary of
Beginning Business.

On the eve of attaining the \$1,000,000 premium note capital, which it hopes to exceed on its tenth anniversary March 1, the Granite Mutual Insurance company held its tenth annual meeting at the home office in the Aldrich investment building this forenoon. With the exception of one loss, which is in the hands of the adjuster at this moment, all claims are paid, according to the report of the treasurer, R. G. Robinson. On Aug. 1, when the yearly statement was issued, the premium note capital amounted to \$903,024, and to that extent was reported that the note capital lacks only \$28,568 of the million mark, and it is expected that the mark will have been exceeded when the company rounds out 10 years in March. The growth of the company's business in 1916 was wholly consistent with the remarkable strides made in each preceding year since the company began writing fire insurance in 1907.

Policyholders have elected the following directors for 1917: Frank C. Bangs, Ernest A. Brown, Alexander Gordon, Albert A. Sargent, Rufus G. Robinson, John Trow, Edwin Davis, George Kent, H. William Scott and H. G. Woodruff of Barre and William H. Sprague of Chelsea.

This forenoon the directors re-elected the following officers: President, H. G. Woodruff; vice-presidents, A. A. Sargent and H. W. Scott; secretary-treasurer, R. G. Robinson; auditor, Alexander Gordon.

HEAD BUMPED BY CAR.

William R. Dewey Injured in Central
Vermont Yard.

William R. Dewey, a brakeman employed in the Barre yard of the Central Vermont railroad, is a patient at the City hospital as the result of an injury received while working with the shifter crew this forenoon around 11 o'clock. The shifter was working just south of Granite street, and Dewey, who was aboard a flat car on the slowly moving freight train, had just leaned over the edge of the car to signal the engineer when his head struck the end of a steel coal car on a parallel side track.

Members of the crew were aware of the accident at once, and Foreman Frank Cassava of the yard gang gave the signal to stop the train. Dewey was knocked from his perch on the deck of the flat car, but he pluckily insisted upon walking to the freight office, where Dr. J. A. Wark was summoned.

Apparently the brakeman received a severe bumping, as blood was streaming from two gashes in the back of his head when he arrived. It was thought possible that a slight skull fracture might have developed from the injury, and the young man was removed to the hospital. His condition is not considered serious. Dewey has been employed by the railroad company in Barre for several years, starting here as a baggage-master. Last fall he returned from a three months' sojourn along the Mexican border, where he accompanied Company B of St. Albans. He retains his affiliation with the national guard. He has a wife and a child.

BIGAMY CHARGED

Against George Bert Wiggins, Who Re-
cently Left County Jail.

River street's latest contribution to the criminal calendar at city court is a bigamy case with George Bert Wiggins as the respondent in charges preferred against him in a complaint made to State's Atty. F. E. Gleason. Until recently Wiggins has been serving a sentence for intoxication in the county jail and when his time expired the warrant for his arrest was served by Sheriff Frank H. Tracy. The morning Chief Sinclair brought the man to Barre, where he was arraigned before Magistrate W. D. Scott at 11 o'clock. When Wiggins decided to waive examination the judge fixed bail at \$1,000, which the respondent was unable to furnish. The case is returnable in the March term of Washington county court and until he secures a bondsman, Wiggins will be confined to-day without bail.

The complaint against the man sets up the allegation that he has a wife in Underhill as well as in Barre. The Underhill spouse is known as Jennie Bartlett and here in Barre folks know Wiggins' wife as Mrs. Adeline Steamberg Wiggins of River street. The Wiggins-Steamburg nuptials are said to have been celebrated last June. The husband of Wiggins' second wife was killed in an accident at a Jefferson street garage some years ago.

DEER KILLED ITSELF.

Got Horns Caught in Tree While Rubbing
Head.

Middlebury, Jan. 2.—George Ayres, who lives just over the line from Middlebury in the town of Salisbury, while spotting a line on a timber tract on the mountain, found the body of a buck deer which had died under peculiar circumstances, having both horns hooked around two trees.

The deer had evidently been rubbing his head against a small tree about one and a half inches in diameter, which grew about 15 inches from another tree about four or five inches in diameter. The small tree apparently bent toward the larger one and allowed one of the horns to encircle it, and as the horns bowed in towards the head the animal became caught by both horns in such a manner that he could not extricate himself.

The deer had fought to clear himself and chafed the skin from the top of his head. It is thought the animal had been there about two weeks or more, as the foxes and bobcats had partly devoured him. H. Chaffee was notified and went to the scene and found upon examination that the deer in its struggles had broken his neck. He removed the horns, which were of unusual size, and will have them mounted. Mr. Chaffee thought the deer would weigh about 200 pounds.

MOTORISTS
CAN BE HELD

On Breach of Peace Charges
if, While Intoxicated,
They Injure Others

JUDGMENT FOUND
BY SUPREME COURT

Important Decision Made at
Opening of January
Term To-day

That automobile drivers can be held for breach of the peace when injuring or damaging other persons on the public highway is the judgment of the Vermont supreme court in an opinion handed down today on the opening of the January term of the court. The opinion was rendered in the case of State vs. Henry Boyd from Windham county, the conviction coming from Brattleboro municipal court.

Boyd was convicted of driving an automobile while he was intoxicated, as well as of breach of the peace; and it was on the latter part that the case was taken by him to supreme court. Boyd drove his machine against a bridge and caused a horse to run away, throwing out the occupants of the carriage. He was fined \$300 and ordered to two months' imprisonment in the house of correction when convicted. Chief Justice Munson affirmed the conviction, holding that the act does constitute breach of the peace.

There were many attorneys from distant parts of the state present when the January term opened at 10 o'clock, the large attendance being probably due to the fact that the annual meeting of the Vermont bar association was to be held later in the day and to the opening of the legislature Wednesday.

Opinions were handed down in other cases as follows:

Addison county.—In re Addison & Panton Telephone Co., an appeal from a ruling of the public service commission caused remanded pro forma for further hearing. Judge Watson. Same opinion in identical case from Franklin county. Caledonia county.—Herman D. Webster and Sherburne Lang vs. Luther D. Harris, general assumpsit; in lower court verdict returned for the plaintiff to recover \$705.50 damages; entry made of settled and discontinued.

Caledonia county.—George M. Gray vs. Gilbert H. Williams et al; in lower court verdict for the defendant was ordered by the court; reversed and ordered remanded. Judge Taylor.

Chittenden county.—Donny C. Hawley, administrator of the Harriet C. Peck estate, vs. Harvey T. Rutter, administrator of the Edwin W. Peck estate; petition for new trial dismissed with costs. Judge Watson.

Franklin county.—Harry A. Cook vs. Francis J. Houghton; reversed and remanded. Judge Munson.

Orange county.—Charles R. Ord vs. Mary A. and William Perry; judgment affirmed and cause remanded; orator had taken the case up. Judge Haselton.

Washington county.—Annie W. Stannan vs. Surety Mutual Life Insurance Co.; verdict of \$1,330.64 for the plaintiff affirmed. Judge Powers.

Of the 51 cases on the calendar 29 were marked for hearing at this term.

CHURCH DEBT REDUCED.

Universalist Society Heard Favorable Re-
port at Annual Meeting.

A year of achievement in all departments of the church work has reflected in the reports received from officers at the annual parish meeting of the Universalist church last evening. Supper was served at 6 o'clock to upward of 100 persons and afterward the time was given over to hearing reports, discussing plans for the new year, and electing officers. The annual church meeting of the Universalist society was held in the church Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock.

Officers elected last evening are as follows: Trustee, Dr. F. M. Lynde, A. B. Lane, Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Jackson and Mrs. Grant A. Lane; clerk of the parish, George L. Bates; moderator, O. K. Hollister; treasurer, Charles C. Kenyon; auditor, H. A. Richardson and W. A. Drew. Reports were received from the treasurer, Mr. Kenyon, from the collector, Mrs. Frank W. Jackson, and from F. W. Jackson as the secretary of the board of trustees. The church starts its new year with a balance on the right side of the ledger. A deficit reported at the beginning of the meeting was more than compassed by voluntary contributions during the evening and of added satisfaction is the fact that the church, in 1916, was able to apply the sum of \$200 on the church indebtedness.

There was much old promise in the statement from the ladies' union, which covers the endeavors of the year. In 1916 the union's earnings amounted to \$835.21 and after financing numerous good works, a balance of \$181 remains. Lately a number of the ladies brought their efforts to focus on a committee organized for the purpose of providing the vestry with a piano. More than \$100 was raised for the piano fund and a gift of \$100 from Mrs. C. J. Bolster completed the fund and left a comfortable balance, which the donor requested the committee to divert to the church. The committee consisted of Mrs. W. G. Reynolds, Mrs. F. C. Eaton, Miss Blanche Spaulding, Mrs. E. M. Tobin, Mrs. Mattie Wiley.

Miss Hannah Devocoff of New York City, who has been passing the holidays with Miss Dorothy Parks, returned today to Middlebury college, where she will resume her studies.

Mrs. E. A. Williams received New Year's greetings by cable yesterday morning from her husband, Maj. E. A. Williams, Shorecliffe, England. Mrs. Williams is at present visiting at the home of Mrs. Charles Williams of this city.

GOLDEN WEDDING
AT GRANITEVILLE

Mr. and Mrs. M. J. McLeod Were Sur-
prised on New Year's Night By
Large Company of Friends.

Fifty years of wedded life were joyously celebrated at Graniteville New Year's night when Mr. and Mrs. M. J. McLeod were reminded of their golden anniversary by a large company of relatives and intimate friends of the family. Surprises are bound to happen in a span of 50 years, but nothing that has occurred since the couple were wedded on New Year's night in 1866 came so unexpectedly as the party in their honor. They were in the hands of their friends before the full significance of the event could be comprehended. But 50 years of practice in the arts of hospitality did not go for naught, as both the bride and groom of a half-century ago rallied sufficiently from their surprise to make the guests feel doubly welcome for their unconventional manner of taking possession of the McLeod home.

One of the delightful features of a social evening came when Murdoch Melver, speaking for the assembled company, presented the couple a heavy purse of gold as a substantial token of the high regard in which they are held by the community. Feeling replies were made by both recipients. Afterward there was an impromptu program of singing and readings and before the visitors were allowed to depart refreshments were served. It was nearly midnight before the observance ended.

Mr. and Mrs. McLeod were born in the same year, enjoy a common birthright in that they claim the same town for a birthplace, and were married in that town. The bride's name was Catherine Melver and her marriage to Mr. McLeod took place Jan. 1, 1867, in Bury, P. Q. More than 30 years ago they came from Canada to Graniteville, where Mr. McLeod was long employed on the quarries. They have four sons, John G. McLeod of Barre, superintendent for the Wells, Lamson Quarry Co., D. W. McLeod, Gordon McLeod and W. H. McLeod of Graniteville. Two daughters died many years ago. Mr. and Mrs. McLeod are members of the Presbyterian church.

GOOD PROGRESS MADE

By First Baptist Church Under Pastorate
of Rev. B. J. Lehigh.

Just over the threshold of the new year parishioners and members of the First Baptist church and Sunday school gathered yesterday afternoon for their annual meeting. Business took up much of the time until eventide, when a novel supper feature was introduced in the form of a "winter picnic," with each family or individual in the church contributing the edibles necessary. In the evening, there was the annual roll call and remarks by Rev. B. G. Lipsky, who brought fraternal greetings from Hedding Methodist church. It was a large gathering of churchgoing folks and a number of those affiliated with the Baptist society in Barre who were unable to be present, sent their reaffirming testimonials of allegiance by letter.

The pastor, Rev. B. J. Lehigh, acted ex-officio as moderator and evidently his being accomplished through his stewardship. Reports from every officer or committee where the finances of the church or the Sunday school were involved indicated that the year 1916 was rounded out with a comfortable balance on the right side of each ledger. Reports took precedence over other matters in the afternoon's business session and after listening to the several accounts, those present turned with new optimism to the additional work in hand. A praise service, opening with a prayer by the pastor, preceded the business meeting, and ended with the congregation singing, "We Have an Anchor." Rev. Mr. Lehigh presided as moderator at an annual meeting of the local church for the first time, having assumed the Barre pastorate last spring.

Officers elected to serve the church in 1916 are as follows: Clerk, Mrs. Frank G. Rogers; collector, W. J. Shields; treasurer, Ernest J. Batchelder; organist, Mrs. E. J. Batchelder; assistant organist, Mrs. Edith Ingalls; chairman of board of ushers, Lewis Jones, remaining ushers to be selected by him; auditors, Mrs. Peter Park, Jr., William A. Perry and Miss Dorothy Ingalls; advisory committee, Rev. and Mrs. Lehigh, deacons and their wives, the Sunday school superintendent, Mrs. Annie Ingalls; financial committee, William McDonald, E. J. Batchelder, W. J. Shields, James Grosvenor, Auden Gearson, Q. H. Perry and H. B. Partridge; baptism committee, Deacon Frank A. Bachinsson; Thomas G. Bailey, Claude Partridge, Annie Ingalls and Mrs. William F. Milne; visiting committee, Mrs. Abbie Corliss, Mrs. and Mrs. L. V. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bradley, Mrs. Theodore Beach, Mrs. Q. H. Perry, Mrs. James Geake, Mrs. Butler, Mrs. F. A. Hutchinson, Mrs. Emery Newhall, Miss Florence Allen and Miss Marion Perry.

Sunday school officers were named in the following order: Superintendent, Clyde W. Perry; assistant superintendent, F. A. Hutchinson; second assistant, William F. Milne; treasurer, Miss Louise Partridge; primary superintendent, Mrs. F. A. Hutchinson; first assistant, Earl M. Lewis; second assistant, Mrs. Emma Grierson; secretary, Miss Margaret Geake; superintendent of the cradle roll department, Mrs. Abbie Nason; superintendents of home department workers, Mrs. Annie Ingalls and Mrs. Nellie Kidder; librarian, Warren Partridge.

After the business meeting the congregation repaired to the upper room, where the supper was served. Responses to the roll call were numerous and those who made their response through letter were invariably cheerful and after conveying the good wishes of his own church to its Washington street neighbor, he told of what he would like to see the Baptist church, in common with its sister societies, accomplish in the year now under way. In particular he emphasized the importance of the church in its relation to the young people of the "teen" age. Before the meeting adjourned the pastor received pledges from the several societies of the church, Sunday school classes and individuals who have promised to pay more than \$700 toward the maintenance of the church before next January.

GATHER FOR
LEGISLATURE

Most of the 275 Chosen Citi-
zens of Vermont Have
Reached Montpelier

LENGTH OF TERM
MATTER OF DOUBT

Some Profess to Believe the
Session Will Run Only
11 Weeks

Most of the 275 citizens of Vermont's 245 towns and cities, which will have representation in the 1917 session of the state legislature, have arrived in Montpelier in readiness for the convening of the biennial session at 10 o'clock tomorrow forenoon. Westmore's representative-elect died last month, so that there will be but 245 members in the lower branch.

It being conceded that Stanley C. Wilson of Chelsea will be elected speaker of the House, with no opposition other than that furnished by the Democratic candidate, who will probably receive a complimentary vote from the members of the minority party, elect Horace F. Graham, make up his inaugural address Thursday morning and who will be chosen to succeed Hon. Loveland Munson of Manchester as chief justice of the supreme court, when the election comes later in the session.

Nothing is announced, of course, as to what Gov. Graham will recommend to the legislature, but there is much conjecture as to whether he will embody in the special many of the ideas outlined during his campaign speeches, when he advocated abolishing some of the commissions now supervising Vermont's various institutions.

As to the election of a chief justice, Justice John H. Watson of Montpelier, by reason of his long service on the highest court of the state, is perhaps considered first, but it does not necessarily follow, some say, that his election is assured. Reorganization of the judiciary promises to be one of the interesting events of the early session.

In the Senate, W. H. Fairchild of Fairfield and Hamilton Park of Burlington were mentioned by many as the principal candidates for president pro tem. Senator Fairchild was a member of the 1915 House and has had considerable legislative experience.

Little aside from organization of the two houses will be accomplished to-morrow. The secretary of state, Guy W. Bailey, shall, according to the constitution, make a roll, by towns and counties, of the members who have presented their certificates and shall call the House to order at 10 o'clock. The election of a speaker will be the first act of the House following the roll-call, and the representative elected will then relieve the secretary of state.

Harry Black of Newport will be chosen clerk, it is conceded, being the only candidate for the position. Mr. Black was second assistant clerk in 1906, first assistant in 1910 and 1914, and clerk in 1912 and 1915. He will probably appoint as his assistants Julius A. Wilcox of Montpelier and Roswell M. Austin of St. Albans. The former was second assistant in 1908 and 1910 and first assistant the past two years. Mr. Austin was second assistant in 1915.

Temporary adoption of rules, to be used until permanent rules are drawn up for consideration, winds up the forenoon's proceedings. A special committee on rules drafted several weeks ago, and, if adopted, the rules are expected to do much toward expediting business.

In the Senate, because of the smaller number of members, organization is much easier. Lieut.-Gov. Hale K. Darling will call the Senate to order and await the election of a president pro tem. Guy M. Page of Burlington, secretary at the last session and assistant for two previous sessions, is the only candidate for the position, and Millard C. Taft of Walpole is expected to be his assistant, as in 1915.

Guesses as to the length of the session are cheap, and many are the predictions heard, but there seems to exist a general belief that 11 weeks from today will not find the sol